

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the subject application. Claims 8, 18, 26, 36, 44, and 54 have been canceled. Claims 1-7, 9-17, 19-25, 27-35, 37-43, 45-53 are pending, of which claims 1, 3, 9, 19, 21, 27, 37, and 45 have been amended to place the application in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5, 8, 16, 18, 23, 26, 31-32, 34, 36, 40, 44, 49-50, 52, and 54 are indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form (*Office Action* p.5). Applicant appreciates the indication of allowability.

Independent claim 1 is amended to include the allowable features of claim 8 (now canceled). Accordingly, claim 1 along with dependent claims 2-7 are in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 9 is amended to include the allowable features of claim 18 (now canceled). Accordingly, claim 9 along with dependent claims 10-17 are in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 19 is amended to include the allowable features of claim 26 (now canceled). Accordingly, claim 19 along with dependent claims 20-25 are in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 27 is amended to include the allowable features of claim 36 (now canceled). Accordingly, claim 27 along with dependent claims 28-35 are in condition for allowance.

1 Independent claim 37 is amended to include the allowable features of
2 claim 44 (now canceled). Accordingly, claim 37 along with dependent claims
3 38-43 are in condition for allowance.

4 Independent claim 45 is amended to include the allowable features of
5 claim 54 (now canceled). Accordingly, claim 45 along with dependent claims
6 46-53 are in condition for allowance.

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8 All pending claims 1-7, 9-17, 19-25, 27-35, 37-43, 45-53 are in condition
9 for allowance and Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to claims 5,
10 16, 23, 31-32, 34, 40, 49-50, and 52 be withdrawn.

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12 **35 U.S.C. §102 Claim Rejections**

13 Claims 1-4, 6-7, 9-15, 17, 19-22, 24-25, 27-30, 33, 35, 37-39, 41-43, 45-48,
14 51, and 53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by
15 U.S. Patent No. 6,907,269 to Yamaguchi et al. (hereinafter, "Yamaguchi") (*Office*
16 *Action* p.2).

17 Applicant respectfully disagrees that Yamaguchi shows or discloses each
18 and every feature recited in the rejected claims, as would be required to support
19 the §102 rejection. However, to place the application in condition for allowance,
20 the independent claims 1, 9, 19, 27, 37, and 45 have been amended to include
21 allowable subject matter as described above in *Allowable Subject Matter*.

22 Accordingly, all of the rejected claims 1-4, 6-7, 9-15, 17, 19-22, 24-25,
23 27-30, 33, 35, 37-39, 41-43, 45-48, 51, and 53 are in condition for allowance and
24 Applicant respectfully requests that the §102 rejection be withdrawn.
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2 **Conclusion**

3 Pending claims 1-7, 9-17, 19-25, 27-35, 37-43, 45-53 are in condition for
4 allowance. Applicant respectfully requests issuance of the subject application. If
5 any issues remain that preclude issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged
6 to contact the undersigned attorney before issuing a subsequent Action.

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8 Respectfully Submitted,

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